Assessment of NH works by World Bank team

†1322. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that World Bank team has expressed great concern after undertaking estimation/assessment of construction works of National Highways/ Highways in India;

(b) whether it is a fact that World Bank team has stated that the planning, outlining and construction work of highways is sub-standard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that doubt has been raised from, technical point of view on projects regarding construction of an integrated National Highway in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is currently implementing four National Highways projects with loan assistance from World Bank. The planning and outlining of these projects, which includes preparation of detailed project report (from technical and environmental point of view), have been finalized with the concurrence of World Bank. For execution of the work, the agencies for supervision and construction are also finalized following guidelines of procurement of World Bank with their concurrence.

World Bank Mission have been undertaking regular visits to above projects to monitor progress and compliance of various loan'covenants. The inputs provided by the World Bank mission through various *aide-memoires* are duly considered by NHAI for effective monitoring of project progress and appraised to World Bank from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Amount for repair of NHs

†1323. SHRI MANGANI LAL MANDAL: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the total amount provided/ earmarked for repair/maintenance and strengthening of National Highways in Bihar during the financial years 2005-06, 2006-07 and upto 31st July, 2007 and the total amount released against it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): Development and maintenance of National Highways in Bihar is entrusted to State Government and National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The allocation of funds to the State Government and expenditure thereon are as follows:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.